



# RADM Cullom July 2011 Video Podcast



***Transcript of the July 2011 remarks by Rear Admiral Phil Cullom, Director, Task Force Energy and the Chief of Naval Operations Energy and Environmental Readiness Division***

Hello. I'm Rear Admiral Phil Cullom, Director of the Navy's Energy and Environmental Readiness Division, and I've got a question for you:

With the fireworks and parades of our nation's birthday fresh under our belt, did you know that on July 4 of 1776, John Hancock was the only person to sign the Declaration of Independence? In fact, it wasn't until August 2<sup>nd</sup> that most of the others signed, and some signed even later than that.

For a minute, just try to imagine the fierce love of freedom that John Hancock must have felt as he picked up his quill, dipped it in the ink well, and in large, clear, Spencerian script, signed his name. With that simple act, he helped blaze a course into history that ultimately led to our nation's independence from authoritarian rule.

Today, we are fighting for our independence on a different front – that of foreign oil.

In short, until we have the means to domestically produce the energy our nation requires, we will remain vulnerable to the vagaries of petroleum supplies that come largely from places far from our shores.

If you visit Navy's energy, environmental readiness, and climate change website, at [greenfleet.dodlive.mil](http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil), you can learn about some of the exciting advances we are making in areas such as:

- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy and alternative fuels
- Water conservation, and
- Ways of advancing sustainability

The Navy is investing tremendous effort in partnering with industries that are developing cutting-edge technologies specifically aimed at reducing our nation's dependence on foreign oil.

Clearly, the scientists and engineers are working hard, but their efforts alone will not be enough to win our nation's latest battle for independence.

We must all be in the fight. We must all consciously make good choices about our energy consumption and about our approach to the environment.

The bottom line is this: the more we reduce our energy consumption, the more we perfect alternative and sustainable energy sources, and the more we protect our environment, the sooner we will be an energy secure nation.

When possible:

- Leave your car at home
- Carpool
- Unplug small appliances when not in use
- Change your light bulbs to energy efficient ones

These are just a few simple ways that you can help make a difference.

This is the month we celebrate our nation's birthday. And if your family and friends are like mine, then you spent the 4<sup>th</sup> of July grilling and picnicking, and watching fireworks. But I hope you also took a moment to remember all of our nation's patriots, and their families, whose courage and sacrifices across all generations since the eighteenth century have given us the freedoms we enjoy today. Please, honor their legacy by making choices that help us win our energy independence in the twenty-first century.

Since you are watching this video clip, chances are pretty good that you are interested in energy issues – issues that often change overnight, so I encourage you to visit our website regularly.

Once again, go to [greenfleet.dodlive.mil](http://greenfleet.dodlive.mil).

Thank you for watching our video clip and be sure to catch our next one – in October when we, along with the nation, celebrate Energy Awareness Month. See you then!